

March 2nd & 3rd

The Second Coming of Christ The Kingdom of Christ

Revelation 20:1-10

Is the Millennium a Literal Reign of Christ Over the Earth?

- ❖ In Revelation, Jesus defeats the beast and the false prophet when He returns, throwing them into the lake of fire. The kings of the world with their armies are slain by the sword that comes from His mouth, and now He will strike down the nations and rule them with a rod of iron.

Revelation 19:15a "From His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron."

- ↳ The reign of Christ is prophesied as a time when He and His followers who are resurrected from the dead, will rule the nations for a thousand years.

Revelation 20:6 "Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with Him for a thousand years."

Amillennialism: This period is a symbolic era between Christ's ascension and return, where the church establishes the spiritual kingdom of God; there is really no millennium reign.

Postmillennialism: Christ's second return will take place after symbolic or a literal thousand-year period that takes place during the church age, mostly because of the successful mission of the church to establish God's rule on earth. Satan is bound during this time, but at the end of the thousand years, he is released and deceives the nations into a final attack on the church.

Premillennialism: Christ will return to establish His millennium kingdom when He defeats the beast and the false prophet, as described in Revelation 19-20. Satan will be bound while Christ rules the nations, deception will cease to exist for this time, and Christ will reign over the nations with His believers. Then Satan will be loosed for a short period of time and deceive everyone against the camp of the saints.

- ❖ The promise of a literal kingdom is questioned. Nevertheless, this is a promise that is given throughout the whole Bible to the Israelites and the Church.

Genesis 13:14b-15 "Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever."

📖 Genesis 15:18-21

- ↳ The covenant of God was initially established with Abraham.

📖 1 Chronicles 17:14, 25-27

- ↳ The firm and eternal promise of this covenant was made with David.

📖 Isaiah 2:2-4

- ↳ This is a promise of a time when a king in Israel will govern all nations, bringing worldwide righteousness and providing worldwide peace.

📖 Isaiah 4:2-5

- ↳ This prophecy is given to those who receive life and spiritual transformation.

📖 Jeremiah 23:1-8

- ↳ David's Heir is the expected King who ushers and establishes this kingdom from the nation of Israel.
 - Psalm 2:6-9* "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.' I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.'"
 - Luke 1:33* "and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."
 - Matthew 19:28* "Jesus said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.'"
 - Acts 1:6-7* "So when they had come together, they asked Him, 'Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?' He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority.'"

A Kingdom Without Satan

Revelation 20:1-2 "Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. And he seized the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years."

- ❖ Satan's dominion will be stopped as he is bound in the bottomless pit for a thousand years by an angel.

- ↳ Satan was cast out of heaven.

Revelation 12:9 "And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him."

- ↳ Jesus called Satan the ruler of this world; Paul called him the god of this world. Satan claims to have the control, the authority, and the glory of the kingdoms of the world, and he offered them to Jesus when he tempted Him.

John 14:30 "I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on Me,"

2 Corinthians 4:4 "In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

Matthew 4:8-9 "Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.'"

- ↳ The defeat of Satan began when Jesus died on the cross. Nevertheless, he still deceives the world and seeks to devour those who are not firm in the Lord.

John 12:31-32 "Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

1 John 5:19 "We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one."

1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."

- ↳ Satan has not been bound yet, but he will, and an angel will throw him into the bottomless pit as Christ introduces the millennium kingdom.

📖 *Isaiah 14:1-15*

Revelation 20:3 "And threw him into a pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while."

- ❖ The kingdom of Jesus will be ruled with righteousness, a kingdom without Satan and his deception.

- ↳ The knowledge of God will fill the earth, producing righteousness and peace.

📖 *Isaiah 11:1-10*

- ↳ Satan is the promoter of deception in the world; therefore, he is removed when Christ reigns over the nations.

2 Corinthians 11:14 "And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light."

↪ We are guaranteed to overcome Satan by faith, and yet we are susceptible to his deception.

↪ When Christ returns to the earth, we will have imperishable, transformed bodies.

↪ Satan will be taken away, leaving no risk for the nations to be deceived.

1 John 5:4 "For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith."

1 John 4:4 "Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for He who is in you is greater than He who is in the world."

📖 Revelation 20:4-6

Endnotes:

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